



LEVEL CREEK PTA

Level Creek PTA General Meeting

March 10, 2023 9:30 AM

27 in attendance

Welcome

Approval of the Minutes from Jan. 20, 2023

Motion to approve by Tracy Dhinsa and second by Melanie Hunsaker.

Remarks and Q&A with Mr. Skelton

- The school has almost fully hired teachers for next year. Level Creek has a few teachers who are retiring, and we are adding a few new teachers as well. There are two remaining spots to fill – a media clerk and an administrative assistant.
- Trailer update: there will be eight trailers added to extend space used by the students. Mr. Skelton is hoping to keep classrooms in the building and use the trailers for classes that don't meet as often. The location of the trailers is TBD.
- Regarding the cafeteria, Mr. Skelton is working to update how monitors are enforcing cafeteria rules with students. The current system was meant to be a communication tool between the cafeteria monitors and the teachers and wasn't intended to have consequences. This is not working as many kids are getting consequences for others' behavior.

The school has tried different systems in the past but many of those have a shelf life and it's time to look at a new system. The school is looking at ideas to see what may work better, including training the staff to make sure everyone is on board with giving kids some flexibility.

Mr. Skelton is talking with teachers and parents to gather information and ideas for consequences for students who do not follow the rules vs. consequences for whole classrooms or lunch tables. Ideas for consequences that came up include potentially having kids run one lap before/during recess. Another idea is to have parent volunteers help during lunch hours.

There may not be one perfect solution that fits, but Mr. Skelton will try to come up with a plan that will work better and will send out an update to parents in the coming weeks via eBlast.



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Treasurer's Report

There are a couple changes to the budget. Great news - parents are volunteering to pay for catered dinners for teachers so there is a new line item for teacher appreciation take-home dinners. The incoming and outgoing remains the same. The other change is that we have collected money to acknowledge support staff during teacher appreciation week as well. The school wanted support staff to receive love and kindness as well and Level Creek families are increasingly generous.

An exciting update - because of the generosity of the fundraiser, PTA is looking to add sound absorbing tiles in the cafeteria. In addition, playground modifications could start as early as April. PTA is also thinking through ideas for how to work with the county on making enhancements to the trailers once they arrive such as a skirt for the trailers, plants, etc.

Vote to approve the changes: Motion to approve the budget by Tracy Dhinsa and second by Shaheda Zaman.

Future PTA General Meeting Dates

All are scheduled on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria: remaining meeting for 2022-2023 is 5/12.

Nominating Committee Update

The nominating committee is in place to lead the process of finding executive board members for the next school year, 2023-2024. Members of the committee research and talk with other volunteers to see if they can serve on the PTA executive board which includes the president, vice presidents, treasurer and secretary. The committee needs four people this year. Shalini Broderick, Lidia Griffin, Shaheda Zaman, and Lori Griffith volunteered to serve on the nominating committee to find executive officers for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion to approve by Melanie Hunsaker and second by Allie Collier.

Membership Update

We have achieved our goal for the year of 300 members! Shaheda Zama has volunteered to lead membership next year.

VP updates:

Vice President Rebecca Catterton

- Classroom Coordinators: No update.



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- Earning for Learning: The Aqua Blue car wash is a good fundraiser. Remember to use code 30024 so the school can get 10% of individual car washes. The Givebacks program is a process, and Lidia is working on a tutorial.
- Newsletter: No update.
- Reflections: No update.
- Square 1 Art: Planning the 5th grade tile installation.
- Talent Show: We weren't sure if we could do it this year, but a few volunteers have stepped up to lead the Talent Show and make it happen. Date is April 12. More information to come.
- Fundraiser: The original goal this year was \$30,000. We have budgeted conservatively the past couple years, but we earned \$77,000 this year, which was substantially more than imagined. Our school is blessed with many great PTA families:
 - Our fundraiser is done completely in house. We don't outsource because fundraising companies take a substantial proportion of funds raised (30-40%). Other schools lose money to for-profit companies and have students go out and sell items, but we want parents to have the flexibility to determine if they want to participate.
 - We are blessed to have parents and families step up and carry the work so all that money can go back into the school. No matter what a family donates - even if it's \$1 - every child is included and gets a tshirt, popsicles, and the Paw Parade celebration.
 - Thanks to each and everyone who participates in helping with the fundraiser. Over the years, the fundraiser has been able to cover Arts and Education, book fair vouchers to kids who may not have funds to participate, teacher grants, etc.
 - Since more funds were raised than expected, the goal for spring carnival is to break even and be an event that enriches the community vs. trying to make funds.
 - This year's end of year celebration popsicles after field day will also be covered by the PTA vs. parents having to contribute.
 - The meeting continued in discussion about the fundraiser and ways to make it even better. Ann Ractliffe volunteered to come up with and submit ideas and solutions for how to make the fundraiser even better next year.

Vice President Lori Griffith

- 5th Grade: Moving toward end of year activities with field day and graduation. The committee sent a communication to families to request \$20 per family to help cover the costs of activities, including field day (5th grade gets more activities, food, DJ, etc. since it's their last year), decorations, invitations, programs and signage for the promotion ceremony. All students will be included no matter the donation. Look for a sign-up to help volunteer for the ceremony.



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- Kindness: No update.
- Membership: Goal of membership was reached at 300.
- Teacher Liaison: No update.
- Yearbook: Everything is due March 29 – pictures or anything you want to submit.

Vice President Bethany Russell

- Arts in Ed: No update.
- Faculty & Staff: No update.
- Environmental: No update.
- School Supply Box: Each class chair is reviewing teacher lists. The goal is to have those available for purchase in April.
- Spirit Wear: No update.
- Spring Carnival: The date this year is April 15. Need committee volunteers.

Vice President Laura Rosales

- Heritage Night: Date is March 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m. There will be a Sign up Genius coming soon to volunteer at the event or a google form for your family to participate. It has been shared to the LCES website and will be shared to the PTA FB page as well.
- Media Center: Book fair was a great success, and the school made the most funds than in years past. Thanks to all the volunteers for helping with assembly and take down. The only thing left to do is inventory. Look for a sign up sheet to be sent out to help with this.
- Multicultural: Thanks to Jemma for this committee's help with the programming and bulletin boards they have created. Many students have reached out/appreciate their efforts. All ideas are welcome for additional ways to promote the culture and community of Level Creek.
- Science Fair: Hoping to do this next year.
- Special Events: Working on an event for this spring.

Know what is going on!

- Website: www.levelcreekpta.org
- Level Creek PTA Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/levelcreekpta/>
- Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/levelcreekpta/>

Meeting Adjourned